



---

STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
**TREASURER SHAWN T. WOODEN**

---

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** Wednesday, May 25, 2022,

**CONTACT:** Office of the Treasurer, [gabriella.martin@ct.gov](mailto:gabriella.martin@ct.gov), (959) 529-2468

## **STATE TREASURER SHAWN T. WOODEN ISSUES STATEMENT IN RESPONSE TO TEXAS SHOOTING**

**HARTFORD, CT** - Today, State Treasurer Shawn T. Wooden released the following statement in response to the shooting in Uvalde, Texas:

Connecticut and Texas now share the pain and heartbreak of an unspeakable tragedy that should never have happened but continues to happen at an agonizing rate. As a father and as someone whose family has been personally impacted by gun violence, I am grief-stricken by yesterday's mass shooting at Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas

The tragedy in Texas marks the 213th mass shooting in 2022, as well as yet another incident involving a military style assault weapon. We continue to experience this senseless violence year after year, month after month, day after day, and yet, meaningful gun reform on a federal level has been stalled at every turn.

In Connecticut in 2012, our State witnessed the devastating and senseless loss of 20 first-graders and 6 educators at Sandy Hook Elementary School. Our state legislature acted swiftly to strengthen our gun laws – by requiring universal background checks, expanding the assault weapons ban and banning of new high-capacity ammunition magazines. And in 2019, after years of stalled progress in trying to engage with gun makers on common sense gun reform, I divested the State's holdings investments in civilian firearms manufacturers and have continued to act to support responsible gun legislation and policies. We have done all that we can both as policy makers and as investors.

Now it's time for Congress to act. Listen to the pleas of parents, children, educators, law enforcement, health care professionals, corporate America and so many others. It's past time to pass universal background checks and common-sense gun safety legislation at the federal level.

Tragedies like what we saw in Texas and Connecticut, and so many other states, cannot continue to happen. We need to act now.

My family and I are praying for the families in Uvalde and all those impacted by gun violence.

###

#### **About the Responsible Gun Policy**

The Treasurer's Responsible Gun Policy is a framework for guiding sound financial decisions and responsible corporate behavior on guns. In addition to encouraging companies to adopt safe gun practices, the Responsible Gun Policy informs and guides the State Treasurer's work related to investments, borrowing and banking transactions. The policy includes three core components: Divestment, Disclosure, and Decision-Making. Learn more [here](#).

#### **About the Office of the State Treasurer**

Under the leadership of Connecticut's State Treasurer Shawn T. Wooden, the Office of the Treasurer is dedicated to safeguarding taxpayers' money and the state's financial resources while maximizing returns, minimizing risks, and operating at the highest professional and ethical standards. Through receiving, investing, and disbursing, the Office continues to enhance the State's fiscal stability, financial literacy, college and disability savings, and its approach to leveraging business partnerships to combat social issues such as gun violence, climate change, and equal opportunities in economic growth. Treasurer Wooden currently serves as President of the National Association of State Treasurers and is the only Black elected State Treasurer in the country and the only Black elected official serving statewide in New England. Learn more about the Office of the Treasurer [here](#) and follow along on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#).

**[Office of the Connecticut Treasury, 165 Capitol Street, Hartford, CT 06106](#)**